

**From:** [Young, Laverm](#)  
**To:** [McQuiddy, David](#)  
**Subject:** RE: EOC Spot Report: Region 6 - West Fertilizer Plant Explosion, West, TX (Update 1)  
**Date:** Friday, April 19, 2013 10:25:04 AM

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David,

I just had one my staff officers call you regarding the EPA role in recovery operations. So if we get a Presidential Declaration, what would EPAs role be, would it be similar to what EPA did during the oil spill?

Thanks

Bullett

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**From:** McQuiddy, David [mailto:Mcquiddy.David@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2013 10:23 AM  
**To:** Young, Laverm; joeseph.iandoli@fema.dhs.gov; archie.salters@fema.gov  
**Subject:** FW: EOC Spot Report: Region 6 - West Fertilizer Plant Explosion, West, TX (Update 1)

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**From:** Epahq Eoc [Eoc.Epahq@epamail.epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2013 6:39 AM  
**To:** Eoc, Epahq  
**Subject:** EOC Spot Report: Region 6 - West Fertilizer Plant Explosion, West, TX (Update 1)

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## **EOC Spot Report: Update 1 West Fertilizer Plant Explosion**

**This report is being sent as a Bcc to prevent accidental reply-all messages.**

**US Environmental Protection Agency Report as of 0730 AM April 18, 2013**

**Overview:** At approximately 1950 CST on April 17, a fire and explosion at the West Fertilizer plant decimated the town of West, north of Waco, causing multiple injuries and fatalities. The exact number of injuries is unknown at this time. A fire at the facility caused anhydrous ammonia to explode, resulting in a shock wave in the area,

causing multiple fires in a six block radius. An apartment building and nursing home adjacent to the facility are severely impacted. Fires are ongoing at multiple residences, the West Middle School, and several other buildings. The cause of the explosion is still under investigation.

**State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions:** Multiple emergency response agencies are engaged in fire-fighting and public safety activities. The Chemical Safety Board has deployed to the accident. IMAAC has been activated and an IMAAC product (plume model) has been shared interagency.

**EPA Actions:** Region 6 has deployed 2 OSCs, 8 contractors and the mobile command post to the site. Additional OSCs and contractors are on standby. Air monitoring will be conducted. The OSCs will coordinate with Texas CEQ and multiple state and local partners on the response. ASPECT support was requested and ASPECT flew the area at approximately 0030, April 18. Preliminary review of the ASPECT data shows the highest concentration of ammonia is about 600 feet downwind of the fire at 60 to 100 ppm (the plume is moving to the northwest of the fire). At approximately 1/2 mile down wind, the ammonia is not detected.

**Media Interest: HIGH**

[http://www.cnn.com/2013/04/18/us/texas-explosion/index.html?hpt=hp\\_t1](http://www.cnn.com/2013/04/18/us/texas-explosion/index.html?hpt=hp_t1)

The HQ EOC will continue to monitor and provided updates as needed.

Prepared by the EPA HQ EOC Watch Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Headquarters Emergency Operations Center  
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\*\*\*\*\* ATTACHMENT NOT DELIVERED \*\*\*\*\*

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For further information, please contact the EPA Call Center at (866) 411-4EPA (4372). The TDD number is (866) 489-4900.

\*\*\*\*\* ATTACHMENT NOT DELIVERED \*\*\*\*\*